HF Happenings

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12 March, March Madness YL Sprint
19 and 20 March, SARL VHF and UHF Analogue / Digital Contest
30 March, SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital
2 April, SARL RaDAR Contest
Find the rules in the 2011 SARL Contest Manual

What does a Harvard to do with amateur radio? I was a guest of the Air Force Museum at AFB Swartkops on 4 and 5 March 2011. I got to fly in a Puma helicopter with the Golden Eagles parachute team, while one of my colleagues was co-pilot on the above Harvard. I also had a chance to visit ZS6MUS, the amateur radio station at the Museum and chat to Dave, ZS6AAW, and Pierre, ZS6ROS.

SARL March Madness YL Sprint

This is a fun activity to celebrate International Women's Day (8 March) between radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call "YL Sprint"

The Sprint is on the air on 12 March 2011 from 09:00 to 10:00 UTC [11:00 to 12:00 CAT] and the exchange is a RS report and YL or OM. It is a phone sprint on the 40-metre band [7060 to 7100 and 7130 to 7200 kHz].

Contacts between YL stations are worth 5 points. Contacts between YL and OM stations are worth 3 points and contacts between OM stations are worth 1 point.

Log sheets and summaries shall be submitted within 7 days after the contest. By e-mail to zs4bfn[at]netactive[dot]co[dot]za or by mail to the Bloemfontein RAC, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324. Closing date for log submissions is 19 March 2011.

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Happy 21st Birthday Namibian Amateur Radio League

On 21 March 2011, the Namibian Amateur Radio League (NARL) will celebrate their 21st birthday and Namibia will celebrate 21 Years of independence.

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?

The NARL says, "To celebrate this great event we have been issued a special event license and call sign, V521NAM. This call sign will be in use from Saturday 19 March 2011 to Monday 21 March 2011. All amateurs in Namibia are allowed to use the special event call sign for the duration of the event.

All QSL traffic should be via the bureau or via e-QSL. All operators are required to send in their logs so the NARL QSL Bureau can send out special QSL cards to all worked stations. Please be on the lookout on all bands and all modes for V521NAM during this weekend. Check-out V521NAM on QRZ.com for more information.

The NARL website can be found at http://www.qsl.net/narl"

The Results of the SARL National Field Day

Twenty six logs were received – all by e-mail. Thank you to Pierre, ZS6A, for the MS Excel spreadsheet, which made logging and scoring so much easier.

One item I did see is that most operators do not check their logs before submitting – I found unmarked duplicate contacts, and then you loss points. I also noticed some of the call signs worked do not exist – maybe a listening problem or a typing problem, it should have been ZS6?? And you have ZU6???.

Using the logs submitted, I calculated that during the NFD 1 726 QSOs were made. These 1 726 QSOs are made up of

Province	QSOs	Band	QSOs
Eastern Cape	149	10 m	3
Free State	144	15 m	62
Gauteng	577	20 m	70
KwaZulu Natal	197	40 m	1 355
Limpopo	53	80 m	235
Mpumalanga	70	160 m	1
Northern Cape	77	**Mode**	**QSOs**
North West	111	SSB	1 577
Western Cape	196	CW	51
DX stations	152	Digital	98

Class A – Multi operator Field Station
1st West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 96 600 points
2nd Northern Cape ARC, ZS3NC, 85 680 points
3rd Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK, 59 400 points

March 2011

5 & 6 - ARRL International DX SSB
6 - DARC 10-Metre Digital
6 - SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest
8 - International Women's Day (not in South Africa)
11 and 12 - SARL Strategic Indaba, Gauteng
12 - March Madness YL Sprint
12 and 13 - RSGB Commonwealth Contest
13 - North American RTTY Sprint
14 - Commonwealth Day
17 - St Patrick's day
19 - Programming in Windows, Cape Town
19 and 20 - SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest
19 to 21 - BARTG HF RTTY Contest
21 - Human Right's Day; Spring Equinox
22 - World Water Day
23 - World Meteorological Day
25 – Inland schools close
26 and 27 - CQ WW WPX SSB Contest
30 - SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital

4th Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 58 440 points
5th Zululand ARC, ZS5ZLB, 49 320 points
6th Midlands ARC, ZS5PMB, 48 240 points
7th Magalies ARC, ZS6MRK, 45 840 points
8th Sandton ARC, ZS6STN, 44 640 points
9th Bloemfontein RAC, ZS4BFN, 25 380 points
10th Cape Town ARC, ZS1CT, 21 924 points
11th Centurion ARC, ZS6CEN, 16 254 points

Class B – Multi operator Field Station, QRP
No entries

Class C – Single Operator Field Station
1st Wessie Wessels, ZS2A, 43 200 points
2nd Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A, 40 560 points
3rd Paul van Spronsen, ZS1PVS, 25 536 points

Class D - Single Operator Field Station, QRP
1st Geoff Lotz, ZR6XZ,56 160 points
2nd Pieter Nel, ZS1PN, 2 160 points
Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, 10 710 points – check log

Class E – General stations
1st Pieter Jacobs, ZS6XT, 37 500 points
2nd Derek Stuart, ZS2J, 9 360 points
3rd Renier Burger, ZU6HOT, 7 236 points
4th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 2 700 points
5th Marius Snyman, ZR6MS, 1 840 points
6th Boland ARC, ZS85SARL, 1 560 points
7th Shane Daniel, ZS4TW, 1 376 points
8th Tim Bullock, ZS6IM, 1 280 points
9th Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 720 points

Soapbox comments

Derek, ZS2J. Hi Dennis, Hope you and the gang had a wonderful time at Onse Rust. Certainly smelt as if the chow was good. I enjoyed the comp as usual, even although I was not able to go into the field this time round. Attached is my log.

Pierre, ZS6A. Seems to me conditions were rather poor, very little activity from div 1 and 2 again. What is wrong, don't they know how to build antennas or what? Jokes aside had fun all the same. We were camping at Mabalingwe nature reserve. The trees were a blessing for the shade they provided, but was a nightmare to erect antennas. It was good to work the "man himself" Dennis - ZS4BS Great stuff, lead by example….

Zululand ARC. Fine food, fine location, fine wx, good friends & Ham Radio. ZS5ZLB

Vidi, ZS1EL. Never tried this before, but it was fun for sure while the bands were workable - - - did not try DX, but will consider that the next time from a proper field station. I hope that I worked out the score correctly. Please check out my log and advise if I goofed.

Paul, ZS1PVS. Thanks for organising the contest. I operated from JF96UP.

Midlands ARC. Hi, MARC operated a field station at Albert falls dam, 16 km east of Pieter-maritzburg. The radio used was an Icom IC-728, using 50 W. We also switched briefly to a Yaesu for 5 or so contacts to test it on QRP. Pictures can be found at http://www.marc.org.za/images/albertfalls1102/index.html

Antennas used were dipoles on 80 m and 40 m, strung between trees. The 40 m dipole was 6 – 8 m off the ground, and the 80 m centre dropped to about 3 m off the ground (5 m one end and 8 the other. We tried 20 m on a dipole, but nothing was heard and we could not raise anyone either. We had 6 operators: ZS5EFP, ZS5V, ZS5AZ, ZR5SF, ZS5CD and ZS5ML. Power used was from batteries, connected to a 60 W solar panel. Please contact me should you have any further queries. 73, Mike ZS5ML, MARC Chairman

Tim, ZS6IM. Attached is my log for the SARL HF weekend. All times in GMT (thats UTC to the younger generation 😊).

As I'm not a serious contender the log is there mainly to assist in confirming others claims.

Eddie, ZS6BNE. I operated from home and had to charge my batteries using the mains supply. I hereby, disqualify myself and am submitting a check log only.

Thomas, ZS6TXA. Hi Dennis, Here's the log from the Sandton club field station last weekend. A good contest, but we had a lot of rain. Please acknowledge receipt, and let me know if there are any problems.

Pieter, ZS1PN. Goeie middag, Ek besef ek sal los laaste wees, maar dis my eerste kompetisie en ek wil maar in die gewoonte kom om logs in te stuur.

Results of the 2010 IARU HF Championships

Namibia
Andrew, V51YJ, 3 640 points Single operator, low power, CW

South Africa
Gary, ZS5NK, 17 836 points single operator, high power, phone
ZS1JY, 2 442 points single operator, low power, CW
Jan, ZS4JAN, 902 points single operator, low power, CW
Vidi, ZS1EL, 35 259 points single operator, high power, CW

Administrative Council and Regional Official Stations
Dennis, ZS4BS, 20 points

DXCC News

From the DXCC Blog Page, edited: "Happy New Year DXCC! - Bill Moore, NC1L, Awards Branch Manager, popped the cork on the champagne today (alcohol-free, of course...) and we spent 3 minutes celebrating the completion of 2010's DXCC processing and started-in on 2011.

The biggest changes include the deletions of the Netherlands Antilles entities and the addition of the four new entities (PJ2, PJ4, PJ5/6 and PJ7) to the system. It will take some time for all the changes to appear throughout the system. Already you might notice that your current entity totals have dropped because of the deletions. If you had both of the PJs con-firmed on 10 bands, you would see your current entity total drop by 20.

The PJ operations have already started obtaining their certificates and will be entering their logs into LoTW shortly - some may make it into the system by 00:00 UTC on 4 March.

Attention PJ stations: You must download the new TQSL Configuration file before you can request a new certificate. This download can be found under Your Account, and then Your Certificates.

Congratulations to all the DXers who now have credit for their first Deleted Entities! Does that make everyone OTs?"

Technical Article - dB or not dB?

Everything you ever wanted to know about decibels but were afraid to ask… True or false: 30 dBm + 30 dBm = 60 dBm? Why does 1% work out to be -40 dB one time but then 0.1 dB or 0.05 dB the next time? These questions sometimes leave even experienced engineers scratching their heads.

Decibels are found everywhere, including power levels, voltages, reflection coefficients, noise figures, field strengths and more. What is a decibel and how should we use it in our calcu-lations? This Application Note is intended as a refresher on the subject of decibels.

The article, downloadable from Rohde & Schwarz, may be of interest to radio amateurs. Thanks to the WIA for spotting this very useful guide. You will find the download link on the WIA website at http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2011/20110307-2/index.php

Senegal - ESMT gets an Amateur Radio station

Tafa Diop, 6W1KI, reports on the opening of a HF/VHF Amateur Radio station at ESMT using equipment donated through the IARU-R1 STARS programme. STARS stands for - Support to the Amateur Radio Service - and aims to assist with the founding of a national society, to as-sist with the establishment of one or more club stations and to assist with the organisation of an educational programme.

This report by Tafa, 6W1KI, is from the IARU Region 1 website http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=706:esmt&catid=45:stars&Itemid=97

As part of one of our STARS projects radio equipment was donated to ESMT (Ecole Supérieure Multinationale des Télécommunication) in Dakar Senegal, the first ITU Centre of Excellence. More than 14 African countries use this institute to train their future telecom engi-neers and future regulators for African Telecom authorities.

The Director General Mr Mohamadou Saibouand and STARS Chairman Hans Welens, ON6WQ officially opened the shack. The equipment donated a few years ago was demonstrated to the audience. Malick Mbengue, Jean-Louis Pipien and Jules Dialo from ARAS gave some de-tails about the installation as well as about the practical use of this station (HF and VHF).

At the same occasion IARU Region 1 Vice-President Tafa Diop, 6W1KI, signed a Memo-randum of Understanding with the Director General of ESMT. The ESMT training program now contains a module called "amateur radio."

It is agreed that both ESMT and IARU region 1 will closely co-operate at all levels and that they will exchange information on a regular basis. Both organizations will have an observer status at each other's meetings.

ESMT in Google English - http://tinyurl.com/SenegalESMT. IARU Region 1 STARS http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=51&Itemid=63

RTTY Most Wanted Survey

Don, AA5AU, reports: "All RTTY operators are invited to participate in the RTTY Most Wanted Survey 2011. This survey is being conducted by Larry, K8UT, and myself. Larry has graciously offered to host the survey on the Southeast Michigan DX Association Web site. This makes perfect sense since Larry already had the form created and ready to go. This survey will be run for 3 weeks beginning now until midnight EST Monday 20 March 2011. The results of the survey will be announced when they have been compiled. Please submit to the survey only once per call sign unless you have made a mistake or your "needs" list on RTTY has changed within the survey period. If more than one survey is submitted with your call sign, we will use the last one submitted. The survey can be found at http://rttysurvey2011.semdxa.org

Thank you for your participation. Thanks to Larry, K8UT, and the Southeastern Michigan DX Association for hosting the survey. Please report any problems with the survey directly to Larry at k8ut@k8ut.com"

African DX

Morocco, CN. Hartwig, DL7BC, will be active as CN2BC during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (26 and 27 March) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via DL7BC. Visit his Web page at http://www.qslnet.de/dl7bc

Morocco, CN. Mathieu, MJ0ASP, is going to hit the airwaves from Marrakech as CN2MR working CW on 10 – 40 m from 14 to 21 March. Mathieu prefers working on the WARC bands. QSL via MJ0ASP, via bureau, direct or LoTW.

African Islands on the Air

Reunion Island, TO2. Olivier, F4FLF, will be active as TO2Z from Reunion Island (AF-016) between 9 – 22 April. Activity will be holiday style with operations planned for every evening using SSB, PSK and RTTY. QSL via his home call sign.

Chagos Island, VQ9, QRT for now! Jeremy, N1ZZZ/VQ9ZZ, reports, "As of today, 5 March 2011, I will be leaving VQ9, leaving no active radio amateur on the island. I should be back in late June, but my schedule is apt to change. So thanks to everyone who worked us over here, and hopefully we will be back on the air in the summer....73."

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 7 to 13 March 2011.

CWops Mini-CWT Test
11:00 - 12:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 12 March 2011
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.cwops.org/onair.html

AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest
23:00 UTC 9 March to 23:00 UTC 10 March and 23:00 UTC 12 March to 23:00 UTC 13 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 and 20 m
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST, Equipment Type and Equipment Year
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 10 April 2011
E-mail logs to: (no info)
Mail logs to: (no info)
Find rules at:
http://www.antiquewireless.org/hamevents2010.htm

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 UTC-03:30 UTC 11 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op – Fox or Hound

Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 12 March 2011
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest
18:30 - 19:00 UTC (80 m) and 19:00 - 19:30 UTC 11 March (40 m)
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 and 40 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: HACWG Members: RST and membership no; non-Members: RST and NM
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 26 March 2011
E-mail logs to: ha3kna[at]tolna[dot]net
Mail logs to: Radio Club, 7100 Szekszard, Rakoczi u. 16., Hungary
Find rules at:
http://radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?PHPSESSID=e57dd37c356355de9489e83e42&p=1280

RSGB Commonwealth Contest
10:00 UTC 12 March to 10:00 UTC 13 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Open (12/24); Restricted (12/24); Multi-Op
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 5 points per QSO; 20 additional points for each of first three QSOs with a Commonwealth Area or HQ station per band
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 13 April 2011
Upload log at:

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?

http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl

Mail logs to: RSGB-G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England

Find rules at:

http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/rberu.s html

AGCW QRP Contest

14:00 - 20:00 UTC 12 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op Only

Max power: VLP: 1 watt or less; QRP: 5 watts or less; MP: 25 watts or less; QRO: >25 watts

Exchange: RST, QSO no, class (power) and AGCW member no or "NM" if not member

QSO Points: 0 points/QSO for QRO - QRO; 3 points/QSO for QRP - VLP, VLP - QRP, VLP - VLP, QRP – QRP; 2 points/QSO for all others

Multipliers: 1 per AGCW member per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 March 2011

E-mail logs to: qrp-test[at]agcw[dot]de

Mail logs to: Edmund Ramm, DK3UZ, Anderheitsallee 24, Bramfeld, D-22175 Hamburg, Germany

Find rules at:

http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:QRP-Contest

ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint

15:00 - 18:00 UTC 12 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Exchange: RST, grid square and ARCI number or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent

Bonus points: 5 000 for battery power portable with temporary antenna

Multipliers: Grids, once per band

Power Mult: >5 W = x 1, 1 – 5 W = x 7, 250 mW – 1 W = x 10, 55 – 250 mW = x 15, <55 mW = x 20

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total grid squares x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 12 April 2011

E-mail logs to: contest[at]qrparci[dot]org

Mail logs to: ARCI Spring QSO Party, c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at:

http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8346/118/

EA PSK31 Contest

16:00 UTC 13 March to 16:00 UTC 14 March

Mode: PSK31

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op

Exchange: EA: RST and province code; non-EA: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point/QSO with same continent on 20 – 10 m; 2 points/QSO with different continent on 20 – 10 m; 3 points/QSO with same continent on 80 – 40 m; 6 points/QSO with different continent on 80 – 40 m

Multipliers: Once each band (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 March 2011

E-mail logs to: psk31[at]ure[dot]es

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.ure.es/contest/428-ea-psk31-contest-english-version.html

Idaho QSO Party

19:00 UTC 12 March to 19:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Multi - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile/Rover - CW, phone,

digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; School - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: ID: RS(T) and county; non-ID: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO

Multipliers: ID: Each state, province and country once per mode; non-ID: Each ID county once per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 12 April 2011

E-mail logs to: idqplogs[at]msn[dot]com

Mail logs to: KARS/logs, PO Box 1765, Hayden, ID 83835-1765, USA

Find rules at:

http://idahoarrl.info/qsoparty/rules.htm

North American RTTY Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name, your state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 March 2011

E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)

Upload log at:

http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit.php

Mail logs to: Ed Muns, W0YK, PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877, USA

Find rules at:

http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php

SKCC Weekend Sprint

00:00 - 24:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and SKCC no or "NONE"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 18 March 2011

Post log summary at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/wes-submit.html

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/

UBA Spring CW Contest

07:00 - 11:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single; SWL

Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: ON: RST, serial no and UBA Section; non-ON: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with Belgian station

Multipliers: Each UBA Section

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 3 April 2011

E-mail logs to: ubaspring[at]uba[dot]be

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.uba.be/sites/default/files/uploads/hf_contests/uba_spring_en.pdf

NSARA Contest

11:00 - 15:00 UTC 13 March and 17:00 – 21:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Transmitter
Exchange: Nova Scotia: RS(T) and county; non-NS: RS(T)
Work stations: Once per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per Phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Multipliers: Nova Scotia counties once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 13 April 2011
E-mail logs to: ve1pjs[at]rac[dot]ca
Mail logs to: Peter J. Surette, VE1PJS, 55 Edgewood Drive, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 1P1, Canada
Find rules at:
http://nsara.ve1cfy.net/nsaracst.htm

Wisconsin QSO Party
18:00 UTC 13 March to 01:00 UTC 14 March
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: All, except WARC
Classes: Single Op – Fixed, Mobile or Tech - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op – Fixed, Mobile or Tech - QRP, low or high; M/M – Fixed or Mobile - QRP, low or high; Beginner - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: WI: county; non-WI: state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per Phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Bonus Points: 500 points for mobiles for each county from which you make at least 12 QSOs
Multipliers: WI Stations: WI counties, states, provinces once; Non-WI Stations: WI counties once
Power mults: HP x 1,0, LP x 1,5, QRP x 2,0
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x power mult x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 20 April 2011
E-mail logs to: k9kr[at]tds[dot]net
Mail logs to: Wisconsin QSO Party, West Allis Radio Amateur Club, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.warac.org/wqp/wiqp_rules.htm

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
18:00 UTC-20:00 UTC 14 March
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each country in Europe; First country in each continent worked other than Europe
Key Type Mult: x 2 if straight key, x 1,5 if bug, 1x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 20:00 UTC 17 March 2011
E-mail logs to: submitlog[at]naqcc-eu[dot]org
Upload log at:
http://www.naqcc-eu.org/autologger/
Mail logs to: M Ireland MW3YMY, Pen-y-Gadlas, Ffordd Bryniau, Meliden, Prestatyn, Denbighshire LL19 8RD, UK
Find rules at:
http://naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf

CLARA HF Contest
17:00 UTC 15 March to 17:00 UTC 16 March
17:00 UTC 19 March to 17:00 UTC 20 March
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op (Low/High)
Max operating hours: 24
Max power: HP: >200 W; LP: 200 W
Exchange: Name, QTH and CLARA member, family member or non-member YL or OM
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with CLARA member; 2 points per QSO with CLARA family member; 3 points per QSO with non-member YL; 1 point per QSO with OM
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each Canadian call area once; Each DXCC country (must be YL QSO) once

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 April 2011
E-mail logs to: ve9glf[at]gmail[dot]com

Mail logs to: G. Linda Friars VP CLARA, VE9GLF, 35 Upper Quaco Road, Baxter Corner, NB E2S 2S2, Canada
Find rules at:
http://clara.hfradio.net/?page_id=145

Next Week's Contests

CLARA HF Contest, 17:00 UTC 15 March to 17:00 UTC 16 March; 17:00 UTC 19 March to 17:00 UTC 20 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 – 02:30 UTC 16 March
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 20:00 – 21:30 UTC 16 March
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, 00:30 – 02:30 UTC 17 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 18 March
10-10 International Mobile Contest, 00:01 – 23:59 UTC 19 March
BARTG HF RTTY Contest, 02:00 UTC 19 March to 02:00 UTC 21 March
Feld Hell Sprint, 12:00 – 14:00 local 19 March
Russian DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 19 March to 12:00 UTC 20 March
Oklahoma QSO Party, 13:00 UTC 19 March to 02:00 UTC 20 March; 13:00 – 19:00 UTC 20 March
Virginia QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 19 March to 01:00 UTC 21 March
North Dakota QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 19 March to 18:00 UTC 20 March
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 – 03:00 UTC 21 March
Bucharest Contest, 16:00 – 17:29 UTC and 17:30 – 18:59 UTC 21 March

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 07 March 2011.

1755 - First steam engine in America installed to pump water from a mine
1876 – Alexander Graham Bell granted a US Patent for his telephone
1876 – Alexander Graham Bell makes the first phone call "Mr Watson come here, I want you."
1896 – Alexander Popoff, is the first to send Morse by wireless at St Petersburg, Russia. He sent 'Heinrich Hertz'.
1910 – The Wireless Institute of Australia founded. It is the world's first Amateur Radio society
1915 - In South Carolina, the minimum age allowed for workers in mills, factories and mines is raised from 12 to 14 years old
1917 - Members of the first Anzac Wireless Signal Squadron occupy Baghdad in Iraq

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?

SARL VHF and UHF Analogue / Digital Contest

The 2011 SARL Contest Manual - Blue Book, Issue 9 Page 33 of 73

VHF/UHF contests should be the test of operator ability and station design and the overriding aim is to get away for the weekend and have fun. But after that, the aims are:

- To promote activity on the VHF/UHF and microwave bands.
- To encourage people to work greater distances than usual by operating portable and/or improve antenna systems
- To provide opportunities for people to activate or work new grid squares

So head to the mountains and hills and see how far you can work.

The Contest is open to all licensed radio Amateurs in South Africa and neighbouring states. All operations shall be conducted in accordance within the limitations of licensing regulations and, if applicable, the requirements for an educational station registration (e.g. for a ZU to operate at power limits of a ZS on a club station) on condition that, A) the Contest station must be registered as educational station and, B) the operator must operate under supervision of a ZS operator. The rules and spirit of the contest must be respected at all times.

The third full weekend of March and September each year - 19 and 20 March 2011 and 17 and 18 September 2011, from 10:00 UTC [12:00 CAT] on the Saturday to 10:00 UTC [12:00 CAT] on the Sunday. The contest starts and ends at the beginning and end on the hour. Use time signals from a reliable source.

Categories
1. Base Station
2. Field Station
3. Club / Multi operator station
4. Rovers
5. 4 hour limited category

These categories are further divided into sub-categories
1. Unlimited – include both digital & analogue operation. "Analogue" would include FM & SSB phone and CW
2. Limited A category – analogue only
3. Limited D category – digital only

Base Station (Single Operator or Multi operator). A base station is the normal home or fixed station. One or more amateurs may operate it as long as they use their own call signs.

Field Station: A field station is a temporary station set up in a caravan, tent or motor vehicle and may erect any type of antenna system. One or more amateurs may operate it but they must use one call sign only. A field station may not use any fixtures e.g. masts and towers permanently erected on the site, nor may the field station use the public mains supply from the site. The field station must provide their power e.g. generators and batteries on the site for their radio equipment and computers for the duration of the contest.

Stations may use only one site for the duration of the Contest, but may move to shelter within one kilometre. Any greater move requires a scoring restart. Two, or more, stations in

close proximity may only participate if the stations are erected and operated entirely independently throughout the Contest. Field stations must make sure the venue will be safe, and they must have the necessary permission to be on the site. Lightning protection must be incorporated on installations as far as possible. Structures or equipment may NOT be taken to a site within 24 hours be-fore the contest start.

Club or Multi-Operator Stations. A Club or Multi-Op station forms the hub of activity during a contest and could work all five bands at the same time. Either a club or multi-operator team may operate from a fixed location or a field station as de-sired but all the multi-operators must use a single call sign.

Rovers. Rovers are encouraged as they create a lot more activity and fun. This category is limited to a minimum of one (1) hour to a maximum of four (4) hours continuous operation from a single location. After four (4) hours the Rover must locate to a new 4-digit grid square and may be scheduled during any part of the 24-hour session operating from any position, mobile or stationary mobile.

A Rover must:-
- activate at least 2 grids to be classified as a Rover
- must work more than 5 stations from a grid
- submit his logs else all the contacts made with the Rover will not count for points

The 4 hour Limited Category. This category may start or end the contest at any time but may only send in a log for four (4) hours of operation. This is for stations that cannot operate for the full 24 hours.

Contacts. Contacts must be fully two-way. Stations shall give signal reports as well their location as latitude and longitude or full six digit Maidenhead Locator.

Operators that participate as operators in a field or multi-operator should not be allowed to make additional contacts using their own call sign. Stations should not be operated under more than one call except in the case where the equipment is normally shared and operated by family members.

Self-Spotting will be allowed, e.g. you may announce that you are calling CQ on 144,250 on a repeater Frequency or on internet logger.

No station may be worked twice on the same band, however a station can be worked in both analogue and digital modes on the same band.

Rover stations can be logged again from a new grid square. (See section for Rover stations)

Exchange. The contest exchange consists of the call signs, signal report and six-digit grid locator. All the exchange information shall be copied at the time of the QSO.

No points will be forfeited if a non-competing station cannot provide a grid locator, or any other information that may be required. However, the receiving operator shall receive and record sufficient information to be able to calculate the score.

Frequencies
50,150 MHz CW; 50,200 – 50,250 MHz SSB; 50,250 – 50,300 MHz Digital; 50,350 – 50,400 MHz FM;
51,400 MHz FM

70,090 MHz CW; 70,100 – 70,150 MHz SSB; 70,150 – 70,175 MHz Digital; 70,200 – 70,275 MHz FM

144,100 MHz CW; 144,200 – 144,250 MHz SSB; 144,250 – 144,300 MHz Digital; 144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM; 145,500 - 145,575 MHz FM

432,100 MHz CW; 433,200 – 433,250 MHz SSB; 433,250 – 433,300 MHz Digital; 433,350 – 433,400 MHz FM

1296,195 MHz CW; 1296,200 – 1296,250 MHz SSB; 1296,250 – 1296,300 MHz Digital; 1296,350 – 1296,400 MHz FM

Higher frequencies as per band plan

NOTE: The 70 MHz band is a shared band; please avoid QRM to commercial users.

Band multipliers. The score for each band will be the number of points made on that band multiplied by the number of grid multipliers contacted on that band multiplied by the band multiplier. Each new multiplier shall be clearly marked in the log.

6 m x 3; 4 m x 5; 2 m x 1; 70 cm x 7; 23 cm x 9; 13 cm and higher x 15

Station Multipliers. Field stations and Rovers get a x 1,5 multiplier

Grid Multiplier. Only the first 2 letters and first 2 numbers will make up the grid multiplier, e.g. KG44 is a grid used for the multiplier, so all stations using KG44 is one multiplier. KG44ee and KG44ba are NOT two multipliers. The number of points on a band is multiplied by the number of different grids worked.

Scoring. Points are calculated as one (1) point per km to a maximum of 1 500 km. All kilometre calculations are to be made using the Maidenhead grid locator system using the "Tinylocator" freeware grid calculator programme. No other distance calculations will be accepted. Tinylocator can be found via Google. Type-in Tinylocator, then click on Tinylocator to obtain the free program.

There are no limitations on input power, and no multiplier for low input power (but the operators must stay within regulation limits for their licenses). There are no limitations and no multiplier for alternative power supply e.g. batteries.

The scores in this final tabulation are the sum of the scores on each band. The scores will be calculated by score for each band (Score achieved * band multiplier).

Only one scoring contact may be made with a given station on each band per session, regardless of any suffix.

Cross-band contacts or contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed and will be invalid in the contest.

EME contacts are encouraged, that is the ultimate DX on the VHF and higher bands. Stations working EME can do so, but EME contacts must be logged separate from Tropo/MS contacts.

A station can submit both logs, one without EME where he will compete against all other contesters, and the EME log where he only competes against other stations doing EME.

Awards and Results. A winner, second and third place will be determined for:-

Single-operator stations

Multi-operator stations

The overall winner will be the station from both categories with the highest score. Certificates will be awarded to the first, second and third placed stations.

Sponsor. Log sheets shall be submitted within 15 days after the contest and can be sent by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za